

The Queenship of Mary

22 August



About the Queenship of Mary

The feast of the Queenship of Mary is a relatively new one in the liturgical calendar. It was established by Pope Pius XII in 1954. However, its foundations reach deep into our Catholic tradition. The early Church fathers recognized that the Mother of Christ, the King, is herself a Queen. Throughout history, artists have found favour painting a picture of Mary crowned amid heaven's glories in the presence of the Holy Trinity. In the Litany of Loreto, we call upon Mary as Queen under various titles. Mary is Queen because of her divine maternity and because of her association with Jesus' redemptive mission.

How does the feast of the Queenship of Mary apply to our lives today?

Today's feast is linked with that of the Assumption, which we celebrated eight days ago, and emphasizes Mary's spiritual motherhood in the Church. Mary's queenship is one of love, exercised in our hearts, and reminds us that if we persevere, we shall reign with him (2 Timothy 2:12). Mary's queenship is one of service and humility, not one of earthly power, which reminds us that we should not get caught up in our own concerns, but rather be willing to serve our neighbour and their needs.

Collect

O God, who made the Mother of your Son
to be our Mother and our Queen,
graciously grant that, sustained by her intercession,
we may attain in the heavenly Kingdom
the glory promised to your children.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

'I am the handmaid of the Lord'

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; **and the virgin's name was Mary.**

He went in and said to her,

'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.'

She was deeply disturbed by these words

and asked herself what this greeting could mean,

but the angel said to her,

'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour.

Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son,

and you must name him Jesus.

He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High.

The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David;

he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.'

Mary said to the angel,

'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?'

'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered

'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow.

And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God.

Know this too:

your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son,

and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month,

for nothing is impossible to God.'

'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary

'let what you have said be done to me.'

And the angel left her.

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Antiphon

Blessed are you who have believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord will be fulfilled.

Hymn for the Memorial of the Queenship of Mary

O God, you chose Mary to be
the one filled with your grace,
obedient to your holy will
in ev'ry time and place.

O God, Mary would be the one
within her womb to bear
Jesus Christ, the Begotten One,
and in your plan to share.

O God, you chose Mary to be
our Mother and our Queen,
a queen without jewels or crown
but doing work unseen.

O God, you chose Mary to be
sinless and ever pure,
Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord,
and in faith to endure.

O God, you chose Mary to be
assumed body and soul
to reign as queen in heav'n above
and guide us to our goal.

Richmond

Music Links to the Scripture Readings

[Glory and Praise to Our God](#)

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